

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T USNATO 5708

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: NOVEMBER 26 SPC DISCUSSION ON STABILIZING MEASURES

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

SUMMARY: SPC AGREED TO GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO REACHING AGREEMENT ON HEADINGS OF SPECIFIC STABILIZING MEASURES WHICH ALLIED NEGOTIATORS COULD PUT FORWARD IN VIENNA ON DECEMBER 11. UK REP STATED FIRMLY THAT LONDON COULD NOT AGREE TO HAVE MEASURES LISTED IN PARA 23, C-M(73)83, APPLY TO EUROPEAN FORCES, BUT REPEATED THAT UK COULD ACCEPT ALL FOUR MEASURES APPLYING TO U.S. AND SOVIET FORCES ONLY. SPC WILL DISCUSS STABILIZING MEASURES AGAIN ON NOVEMBER 29, LOOKING TOWARD NAC DISCUSSION MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, FOLLOWING BRIEFING BY AD HOC GROUP CHAIRMAN. END SUMMARY

1. SPC CHAIRMAN KASTL REPORTED TO COMMITTEE THAT AD HOC GROUP, AT ITS NOVEMBER 22 MEETING, MADE A STRONG PLEA FOR PRESENTING IN NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE THE CHRISTMAS RECESS  
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SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON STABILIZING MEASURES. AHG THOUGHT IT WOULD BE TACTICALLY DESIRABLE IF COUNCIL ON MEASURES COULD AGREE IN TIME FOR DECEMBER 11 MBFR PLENARY.

2. PER STATE 222698, U.S. REP SAID THAT COMMITTEE'S OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE TO IDENTIFY MEASURES BY TITLE. PROCESS OF ANALYZING IN DEPTH THOSE MEASURES SELECTED ACCORDING TO FORMAT PROPOSED BY IS (SEE BELOW) WILL TAKE SOME TIME, AND COMMITTEE SHOULD FOCUS IN THE FIRST INSTANCE ON AGREEING TO TITLES.

3. UK REP REPEATED BRITISH VIEW THAT LONDON COULD ACCEPT FIRST FOUR MEASURES OF PARAGRAPH 23 AS APPLYING TO U.S. AND SOVIET FORCES ONLY. UK IS STILL AWAITING REACTIONS BY ALLIED GOVERNMENTS TO UK PROPOSALS FOR GIVING EUROPEAN CHARACTER TO STABILIZING MEASURES THROUGH A MORATORIUM AGREEMENT. HE SUGGESTED THAT DELEGATIONS SEEK ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (KEYED TO LIST OF MEASURES CONTAINED IN PARA 4 BELOW):

A. DOES ANY ALLY OBJECT TO MEASURES B THROUGH D APPLYING TO U.S. AND SOVIET FORCES ONLY?

B. ARE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS IN FAVOR OF APPLYING MEASURES B THROUGH D TO EUROPEAN FORCES?

C. IF NOT, WOULD THEY ACCEPT MEASURES E AND/OR F?  
UK CONTINUES TO FAVOR E.

4. KASTL SUGGESTED THAT DELEGATIONS SEEK SUCH INSTRUCTIONS ON THE BASIS OF THE FOLLOWING LIST:

A. PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT OF MOVEMENTS OF U.S. AND SOVIET FORCES INTO THE AREA INCLUDING ROTATIONS.

B. PRE-ANNOUNCEMENTS OF MAJOR EXERCISES BY ALL (OR U.S. AND SOVIET) FORCES IN THE AREA.

C. LIMITATIONS ON THE SIZE, LOCATION, NUMBER AND DURATION OF MAJOR EXERCISES BY ALL (OR U.S. AND SOVIET) FORCES IN THE AREA.

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D. EXCHANGE OF OBSERVERS AT MAJOR EXERCISES BY ALL (OR U.S. AND SOVIET) FORCES IN THE AREA.

E. AGREEMENT BY ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN MBFR NOT TO RAISE THE TOTAL AGGREGATE MANPOWER OF THEIR GROUND FORCES PERMANENTLY STATIONED IN NATO GUIDELINES AREA WHILE THE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE.

F. AGREEMENT BY ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN MBFR NOT TO INCREASE THE NUMBER AND SCOPE OF THE EXERCISE ACTIVITY OF THEIR LAND FORCES WHILE THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS.

5. GREEK REP ASKED THAT FOLLOWING BE ADDED TO BRITISH MORATORIUM PROPOSAL (4 E ABOVE) : AGREEMENT TO ".REFRAIN DURING THE PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF BEGIN BRACKETS (DECLARATION PROPOSED BY UK) END BRACKETS FROM ANY MOVEMENT OF GROUND FORCES WHICH WOULD CREATE A THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF THE COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BUT NOT SIGNATORY TO THIS DECLARATION."

6. KASTL ALSO CIRCULATED A PROPOSED OUTLINE FOR CONSIDERING IN GREATER DETAIL LATER THE MEASURES WHICH THE ALLIES SELECT:

A. PROPOSAL (SHORT DESCRIPTION OF MEASURE ALLIES MIGHT PROPOSE)

B. MILITARY ADVANTAGES/DISADVANTAGES AND MILITARY/TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY

C. POLITICAL ADVANTAGES:DISADVANTAGES

D. NEGOTIABILITY

E. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

7. COMMENT: SEE SEPTTEL FOR MISSION COMMENTS ON APPROACH TO REACHING ALLIED AGREEMENT ON HANDLING STABILIZING MEASURES. END COMMENT.

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